

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to refer to step SA9 shown in Fig. 3 so as to overcome the objection to the drawings, and the specification has also been amended to provide the well known definitions for various abbreviations so as to overcome the objection to the specification.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered, and that the objections to the drawings and specification be withdrawn.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-19 have been canceled, and new claims 20-39 have been added to more clearly recite the distinguishing features of the present invention in better U.S. form.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

CLAIM FEE

The application was originally filed with 19 claims of which 3 were independent. The application now contains 20 claims, of which 14 are independent. Accordingly, a claim fee in the amount of \$2200.00 for the addition of 11 extra independent claims is attached hereto. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees which may be determined to be required to Account No. 06-1378.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-9 and 13-19 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by US 2001/0022861 ("Hiramatsu"), and claims 10-12 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Hiramatsu and JP 11-168749 ("Mitsushige et al"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to new claims 20-39.

Hiramatsu discloses a system in which a projector 10 detects a pointed position on a image display region 12, which is indicated by a presenter 30 using a shadow region of a pointer rod 40, as the tip position of the shadow region of a pointing image projected onto the image display region 12 within a picked-up image (paragraph 0091). In addition, Hiramatsu discloses moving a cursor within the image projected from the projector 10

to follow the pointed position of the pointer rod 40 (paragraph 0109).

Mitsushige et al, moreover, discloses calculating a proper gain corresponding to an AWB evaluation value outputted from an IPP 107 within a set color temperature range (see, for example, the abstract).

It is respectfully submitted, however, that neither Hiramatsu nor Mitsushige et al discloses, teaches or suggests the subject matter of the present invention as recited in new independent claims 20-39.

In particular, according to the present invention as recited in new independent claims 20 and 33, the image pickup frame period of an image pickup device is synchronized with a period of an optical signal which is included in an image signal output from the image pickup device and is based on a light of a predetermined wavelength included in the optical image of the object when it is determined that the two periods are not synchronized. The synchronization is performed by shifting a phase of the image pickup frame period, and a predetermined control operation is executed when the light of the predetermined wavelength is detected. Thus, the optical signal can be received more accurately, thereby improving the probability of executing the predetermined control operation. These features are clearly

not disclosed, taught or suggested by either Hiramatsu or Mitsushige et al.

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claims 24 and 34, moreover, an area of the object image is specified and a control operation is executed based on the specified area.

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claims 25 and 35, a moving pattern of a transmitting source of the optical signal is recognized, and a control operation is executed based on the recognized moving pattern.

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claims 26 and 36, a focus detection area corresponding to the transmitting position is set and a focus control operation is executed based on the set focus detection area.

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claims 27 and 37, an exposure detection area corresponding to the transmitting position is set and an exposure control operation is executed based on the set exposure detection area.

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claims 29 and 38, a color evaluation area corresponding to the transmitting position is set and a white

balance control operation is executed based on the set color evaluation area.

According to the present invention as recited in new independent claims 31 and 39, specific code data included in the image signal is detected and a control operation is executed based on the detected specific code data.

And it is respectfully submitted that these features of the present invention are clearly not disclosed, taught or suggested by either Hiramatsu or Mitsushige et al.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new independent claims 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 31 and 33-39 as well as each of claims 21-23, 28, 30 and 32 respectively depending therefrom all patentably distinguish over the cited references, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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